

## playing to the audience

how annoying  
they should care about this story  
it's important  
these are our choices  
our sacrifices and deliverance  
even today  
every day really

how can I package this  
to help them understand?

should I even try?

I suppose I could somehow  
sing and dance up here  
entertain and inform

how boring

it wouldn't work anyway  
my brain doesn't go there  
hollywood baaa

and it probably takes more  
much much more

flickering images  
clashing bodies  
guns, sex, and violence

to get them to even notice  
in a dull sort of way

arrrrghhh

maybe somebody else  
can take this over  
I'd rather be anywhere  
but here

what a mess

yes I know  
this is real  
this is my job  
I'm supposed to be able  
to do this  
magically make it work  
look right into their eyes  
in a way that connects  
makes them feel they are  
important enough  
to see and hear  
and participate in  
the story of this day

it's not working

I can't do it  
sometimes maybe  
a different crowd maybe  
but not now, not today  
not in this setting  
it really is asking too much

ok, I know  
this is an old story  
usually anyone  
with something important to say  
is ignored  
ridiculed  
and if they get angry

laughed at even harder  
or dealt with

and yes  
there are many shades  
of all the colors  
even black and white  
many shades of success  
and failure  
some hear and some don't

it's all relative  
and the subconscious gathers  
also  
what I see out there  
are just the tips  
of these bergs

what should my model be?  
PBS works for a few

relevance?  
how this story happens  
every day  
what it means right now?

to really do that  
would be quite daring  
and very very political of me  
oops  
tempting

how about the local silliness  
of skits at a Grange hall  
people in the audience  
get involved there  
in a friendly sort of way

but it's not funny  
damn it

I suppose I am a bit silly  
fuming up here  
while everyone else  
sleeps peacefully  
with their eyes open  
behind a vacant smile  
or the ones whose muscles  
are jumping because they just  
want it to end  
and me  
standing up here  
ploughing ahead as best I can  
getting annoyed and showing it  
arguing with gathering clouds  
who don't hear  
and don't care

what is this about?

I guess  
it really is about me  
and these particular people  
out there  
who I am  
and who they are  
what I'm thinking  
and what they're thinking  
what I'm caring about right now  
and what they are caring about  
right now  
that's where this show belongs  
that's what I have to connect to

how the hell do I do that?

G\_d do Y\_u have an answer?  
or is this just a wonderful  
show for Y\_u?

me up here and them down there  
each thought each emotion  
each flare  
each closing and hiding  
a wonderful show?

because for each of us  
each moment  
is an experiment for Y\_u  
a chance for us to choose  
to be more alive  
or not  
to notice that we're alive  
or not?

do Y\_u love us  
no matter what we do?

I guess Y\_u must

or I wouldn't be here

I admit  
we all are truly amazing  
going on and on  
on stage and off  
keeping this holy holy  
silly show  
running

just for Y\_u  
and just for us

I guess  
Y\_u do see  
and Y\_u do care  
and everyone who also sees  
and cares  
and is not afraid to show it  
is the best part  
for Y\_u

and me

ok G\_d  
ok

thanks

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